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a third layer comprising a blend of a polymer formed by the polymerization reaction with a single site catalyst and low density polyethylene,

wherein the second and third layers form outer layers of the film structure.

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 8, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10-14, 35, 37, 41-47, 98-100 and 102-108 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Newsome (U.S. Patent No. 4,457,960) in view of Hodgson, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 5,206,075) and Van der Sanden et al. (A New Family of Linear Ethylene Polymers Provides Enhanced Sealing Performance). In addition, the Examiner has objected to claims 15, 16, 18, 48, 49, 51 and 101 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 15, 16, 18, 48, 49, 51 and 101 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Therefore, with respect to the objection to claims 15, 16, 18, 48, 49, 51 and 101, Applicants have written them in independent form as new claims 109-115, including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that newly added claims 109-115 are in allowable form. Further, Applicants have cancelled claims 15, 16, 18, 48, 49, 51 and 101 from the present application.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that all of the remaining claims have been cancelled and removed from consideration in the present application, thereby rendering the rejections thereto moot.

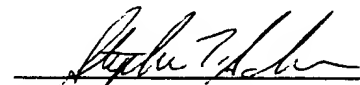
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in allowable form and that the application is now in condition for allowance. If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney so that the same may be resolved and the application expedited to issue. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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